

Rejected
R. 28575

VII-1-3

Def. Doc. # 356

28th Dec./46



Dear Major Furness,

In the questionnaire on Araki to which I replied on the 26th, there was, if I remember right, a query about a Far Eastern peace conference which I was unable to answer. In the meantime, however, I have been looking through my 1933 and 1934 political diaries and have come across the following entry under date of 30th October 1933:

"Araki has come out with a proposal to invite Britain, America, China, Russia, India, Afghanistan and Manchukuo to a conference in Tokyo prior to 1935 with a view to reaching understandings and agreements aiming at peace in the Orient. The Foreign Office, however, say they know nothing about the proposal officially and the War Office say that it is, as yet, no more than a personal idea of Araki's. It remains therefore to be seen whether the proposal will materialize into more concrete form."

I had forgotten about this proposed conference until I came across this reference to it in my diary, and as I cannot find any further mention of it I imagine that it never came to anything; but I mention it now in case it is of any interest to you.

PURL: <http://www.legal-tools.org/doc/9d6240/>

Other points of possible interest to which I have come across in the diary include the following:

1. By the close of 1933 Araki was said to be losing favor with the young officer groups on account of his advocating moderation.

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2. Araki distrustful of Matsuoaka, as he considered him an opportunist and out for his own glorification.
3. Araki opposed to General Matsui's activities in connection with the Great Asia Society.
4. In March 1934 I was told in confidence by one of Araki's henchmen that Araki was prepared, if necessary, to force the government's hand by threatening to resign unless a more friendly policy towards Britain was carried out.
5. Shortly prior to this, Araki had sent me a message asking me to keep him informed of any anti-British propaganda that might be going on in Japan at any time, as he would then do his best to get it stopped.
6. To my inquiry about certain remarks of an anti-British nature alleged to have been made by Araki a year or so previously, I was informed that the article in which these remarks appeared was written by a "ghost writer", not by Araki himself.
7. The late Colonel Jones, who was British Military Attache in Japan at the time, expressed to me his conviction that Araki was absolutely sincere and nothing like as fanatical as he was commonly reputed to be.

In addition to the above points, I find from my diary that two of the statements made in my replies to the questionnaire call for slight modification.

In Paragraph G. on P. 2 I said that Araki had used me to sound out the British Ambassador about an ^{informal} meeting. The diary shows, however, what I had forgotten, namely, that at the start it was the British Charge d'Affaires Mr. Thomas Snow, whom he wished to meet for informal talks. The Ambassador himself was absent on leave at the time and it was only after his return to Japan a month or two later

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that I was asked to arrange for a meeting with him, too.

In the same paragraph I said that the Empress Dowager had appealed to Araki privately to assist in improving relations with Britain. This was, I believe, correct; but I see from my diary that Araki's henchman, an ex-officer named Yamada, informed me in confidence on November 21, 1933 that Araki's wish to work for closer friendship with Britain was due to the Emperor himself having intimated to him, through Prince Fushimi, that it was his earnest desire that he, Araki, should do so.

These two modifications to my replies are of no great consequence so far as the general picture of Araki is concerned, but I mention them here in order to ensure the accuracy of my replies as far as possible.

It was very good of you to offer to take a letter to Mrs. Honma. My wife has gladly taken advantage of your kindly offer and has already written to you enclosing a letter for Mrs. Honma. I hope it reaches you all right and that you will not have any difficulties about it.

Kindest regards and all good wishes
Yours very sincerely,

(signed) Malcolm D. Kennedy

PURL: <http://www.legal-tools.org/doc/9d6240/>

一九四六年十二月二十八日

ケネディ

フアーネス様

「二十六日ニオ客ヘシマシタ荒木ノ質問表ノ中デ私ノ記憶ニ誤リガ無ケレバ極東平和會議ニ關スル質問ガアリ私ガ御返事ガ出來ナカツタノガアリマシタ。然シ乍ラ其ノ後私ノ一九三三年ト一九三四年ノ政治日記ヲ見テ居リマシタラ一九三三年十月三十日附デ次ノ様ナ記入ガ出テ參リマシタ。

Exh, NO

「荒木ハ一九三五年以前ニ英國、米國、支那、ソ聯、印度、アヲガニスタ
ン、滿洲國ヲ招イテ東京ニ會議ヲ開催シ以テ東洋ノ平和ヲ主眼トスル諒解
及ビ協定ニ到達セントスル提案ヲ携ゲテ現レテ來タ。併シ外務省ニ於テハ
右ニ關シテハ公式ニハ何等承知シ非ズ陸軍省ニテハ此ノ件ハ目下未ダ荒木
ノ個人意見ニ過ギナイト云ツテ居ル。從ツテ右提案ガ更ニ鞏固ナ形ニ具體
化スルカ否カハ今後ノ問題デアル。」

Def, Doo, NO356

私ハ此ノ會議ノ提案ノコトハ私ノ日記ノ中ニ此ノ事ガ書イテアルヲ見付
ケルマデハ全ク忘レテキマシタ其ノ後此ノ事ハ何ンニモ日記ニ書イテ無イ
處ヲ見ルト何トモナラナカツタモノト思ヒマスガ兎ニ角何等カノオ役ニ立
ツカドウカ之レダケ書キ送リマス
其ノ他日記ヲ讀ンデ見テオ役ニ立ツカモ知レナイト考ヘラレルノハ次ノ語

Def. Doo, N0356

點
デ
ス

一、一九三三年終リノ頃ニハ荒木ハ青年將校連カラノ人氣ヲ失ツテキマシ

タソレハ彼ノ主張ガ中庸ニ過ギルト云フ爲メデス

ニ荒木ハ松岡ヲ信用シテ居マセシタ松岡ハ機會便乘主義者デアリ自分

ノ名譽慾ガ強イト考ヘテキタカラデス

三、荒木ハ松井大將ノ大亞細亞協會關係ノ活動ニ反對シテキマシタ

四、一九三四年三月ニ私ハ荒木側近者ノ一人カラ内密ニ次ノ話ヲ聞キマ

シタ即チ荒木ハ必要トアラバ政府ニ對シ英國ニ對スルモツト友好政策ヲ

探ラナイト辭職スルゾト脅カシテ政府ヲ強要スル覺悟ガアルト云フノデ
ス

五、之レヨリ一寸前荒木ハ私ノ許ヘ使者ヲ送ツテ日本ニ於テ如何ナル時デモ

反英宣傳ガ行ハレタラ常ニ知ラセテ呉レト頼ンデ來マシタ其フ云フ時ハ

直チニソレヲ止メサセル様ニ万全ノ努力ヲスルト云フノデス

六、私ガ一年位前ニ荒木ガ作製シタト云フ噂ノアル反英性ノ人員表ノ事ヲ

尋ネマシタ此ウ云フ事ヲ審イテアル一文ハ幽靈作者ノ手ニナルモノデ

荒木ガ書イタモノデハ無イト答ヘマシタ

七、當時ノ英大使被附武官故ジェームス大佐ハ私ニ語ツテ荒木ハ絶對的ニ

眞摯ナ人間デアリ世間デ普通言ツテキル様ナ狂信的ナ人デハ無イト確信

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スルト云ツテキマシタレ

『以上ノ諸點ニ加ヘマシテ日記ニヨリ私ハ私ガ質問表ニ回答シタ中デ二ヶ所僅カバカリ修正シナケレガナライ事ニ氣ガツキマシタ

第二頁ノG項ニ荒木ガ英國大使ト非公式ニ會談シ度イカラ打診シテ見テ呉レト頼ンダト語リマシタガ日記ニハ私ガ忘レタ事ガ暫イテアツテ其レニヨルト最初彼ガ非公式ニ會ツテ話シ度イト希望シタノハ代理大使トイマススノウ氏デシタ當時大使ハ賜暇歸英中デ私ガ頼マレテ又大使トノ會談ヲモ幹旋シタノハ大使ガ其ノ後一ヶ月カ二ヶ月經ツテ日本ニ歸任シテカラノ事デシタレ

『同ジ項中ニ皇太后陛下ガ私的ニ荒木ニ對シテ日英關係ノ是正ニ盡力スルヤウオ頼ミニナツタト云フ事ヲ云ヒマシタガ此ノ事ハ間違ヒ無イ事ト信ジマスガ日記ヲ見マスト荒木ノ側近者ノ一人デ前ニ將校デアツタ山田ト云フ人ガ一九三三年十一月二十一日ニ内密ニ私ニ語ツテ呉レタノデスガ荒木ガ英國トノ友好關係ヲ緊密ナラシメル爲メニ努力シヤウト希望シタノハ天皇陛下自身ガ伏見宮ヲ通ジテ荒木ニ陛下ハ荒木ガソウ云フ活動ヲスル事ヲ切ニ望ンデキルト御訂チ明ケニナツタカラダト云フ事デスレ

以上二點私ノ回答書ヲ修正致シマス之等ノ修正ハ荒木ノ人爲リヲ知ル上ニハ大シタ影響ハ無イモノデスガ、私ノ回答ヲ出來ルダケ明確ナモノニシ度

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イト云フ希望カラ茲ニ附記シマシタ
 ソレカラ本間夫人宛ノ手紙ヲ御持チ下サル由御申出下サイマシテ誠ニ有リ
 難ウ御座イマシタ。私ノ妻ハ御好意ニ甘ヘテ既ニ本間夫人宛ノ手紙ヲ同封
 シテ貴下ニ手紙ヲ出シマシタ。ドウカ右ガ無事御手許ニ届クヤウ又餘リ貴
 下ニ御面倒ヲ掛ケル事ニナラヌ様希望致シマス

敬具

ケネデイ

署名